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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/757,055	01/14/2004	Kevin E. Spaulding	87433RLO	4831
7590 Pamela R. Crocker Patent Legal Staff Eastman Kodak Company 343 State Street Rochester, NY 14650-2201	02/13/2008		EXAMINER SHIKHMAN, MAX	
			ART UNIT 2624	PAPER NUMBER
			MAIL DATE 02/13/2008	DELIVERY MODE PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Advisory Action Before the Filing of an Appeal Brief	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	10/757.055	SPAULDING ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit
	Max Shikhman	2624

--The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

THE REPLY FILED 01/31/2008 FAILS TO PLACE THIS APPLICATION IN CONDITION FOR ALLOWANCE.

1. The reply was filed after a final rejection, but prior to or on the same day as filing a Notice of Appeal. To avoid abandonment of this application, applicant must timely file one of the following replies: (1) an amendment, affidavit, or other evidence, which places the application in condition for allowance; (2) a Notice of Appeal (with appeal fee) in compliance with 37 CFR 41.31; or (3) a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) in compliance with 37 CFR 1.114. The reply must be filed within one of the following time periods:

a) The period for reply expires _____ months from the mailing date of the final rejection.
 b) The period for reply expires on: (1) the mailing date of this Advisory Action, or (2) the date set forth in the final rejection, whichever is later. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of the final rejection.

Examiner Note: If box 1 is checked, check either box (a) or (b). ONLY CHECK BOX (b) WHEN THE FIRST REPLY WAS FILED WITHIN TWO MONTHS OF THE FINAL REJECTION. See MPEP 706.07(f).

Extensions of time may be obtained under 37 CFR 1.136(a). The date on which the petition under 37 CFR 1.136(a) and the appropriate extension fee have been filed is the date for purposes of determining the period of extension and the corresponding amount of the fee. The appropriate extension fee under 37 CFR 1.17(a) is calculated from: (1) the expiration date of the shortened statutory period for reply originally set in the final Office action; or (2) as set forth in (b) above, if checked. Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of the final rejection, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

NOTICE OF APPEAL

2. The Notice of Appeal was filed on _____. A brief in compliance with 37 CFR 41.37 must be filed within two months of the date of filing the Notice of Appeal (37 CFR 41.37(a)), or any extension thereof (37 CFR 41.37(e)), to avoid dismissal of the appeal. Since a Notice of Appeal has been filed, any reply must be filed within the time period set forth in 37 CFR 41.37(a).

AMENDMENTS

3. The proposed amendment(s) filed after a final rejection, but prior to the date of filing a brief, will not be entered because
 (a) They raise new issues that would require further consideration and/or search (see NOTE below);
 (b) They raise the issue of new matter (see NOTE below);
 (c) They are not deemed to place the application in better form for appeal by materially reducing or simplifying the issues for appeal; and/or
 (d) They present additional claims without canceling a corresponding number of finally rejected claims.

NOTE: _____. (See 37 CFR 1.116 and 41.33(a)).

4. The amendments are not in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121. See attached Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment (PTOL-324).
 5. Applicant's reply has overcome the following rejection(s): _____.
 6. Newly proposed or amended claim(s) _____ would be allowable if submitted in a separate, timely filed amendment canceling the non-allowable claim(s).

7. For purposes of appeal, the proposed amendment(s): a) will not be entered, or b) will be entered and an explanation of how the new or amended claims would be rejected is provided below or appended.

The status of the claim(s) is (or will be) as follows:

Claim(s) allowed: _____

Claim(s) objected to: _____

Claim(s) rejected: 1-27

Claim(s) withdrawn from consideration: _____

AFFIDAVIT OR OTHER EVIDENCE

8. The affidavit or other evidence filed after a final action, but before or on the date of filing a Notice of Appeal will not be entered because applicant failed to provide a showing of good and sufficient reasons why the affidavit or other evidence is necessary and was not earlier presented. See 37 CFR 1.116(e).
 9. The affidavit or other evidence filed after the date of filing a Notice of Appeal, but prior to the date of filing a brief, will not be entered because the affidavit or other evidence failed to overcome all rejections under appeal and/or appellant fails to provide a showing a good and sufficient reasons why it is necessary and was not earlier presented. See 37 CFR 41.33(d)(1).
 10. The affidavit or other evidence is entered. An explanation of the status of the claims after entry is below or attached.

REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION/OTHER

11. The request for reconsideration has been considered but does NOT place the application in condition for allowance because:
See continuation sheet, please.
 12. Note the attached Information Disclosure Statement(s). (PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s). _____
 13. Other: _____

JINGGE WU
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER

Continuation of 11. NOTE: Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-27 have been fully considered, but they are not persuasive.

a. Applicant argues: None of the disclosed enhancement algorithms (e.g., exposure adjustment, tone scale adjustment, color adjustment, sharpening, noise reduction, and red-eye correction) include any steps requiring user intervention, nor do they call for any user intervention, and they are therefore automatic.

Examiner's reply: None of the enhancement algorithms call for automation either. We would therefore expect some user intervention, since the user is the final judge whether the image is enhanced or not.

The word "auto—" is absent from applicant's spec completely. Nowhere does the applicant's spec imply automatic enhancement algorithm; Applicant mentions "automatic" only in the Claims. So, if the spec omits "auto—" completely, maybe user intervention is required.

b. Applicant argues: This adjustment suggested by Gruzdev with no disclosure will not enhance the color image, but is a gamut mapping/gamut extrapolation problem.

Examiner's reply: Gruzdev, "[0043] In a fourth step...", this is 4th step in Abstract and the step of "[0027] a modifier for modifying at least hue within image data in the second color space to form corrected image data in the second color space," which is image enhancement.

c. Applicant argues: There is no disclosure in Gruzdev of an image enhancement algorithm that has one or more parameters having values that are adjusted in response to the input color space.

Examiner's reply: "[0043] ...extrapolate a replacing color on the basis of these two colors. ... such an extrapolation may take several forms, in particular to adjust to the fact that colors in the reference color space may not lie within the gamut of possible colors represented by the original color space..." The "replacing"—image enhancement algorithm—is in response to the original color space. Gruzdev's invention works entirely between two different color spaces; any of the enhancement parameters can be readjusted for better results depending on either color space; many degrees of freedom.